

REMARKS

We thank the patent examiner for his careful reading of our application and well-drafted response. We feel that a restriction is proper, and elect to restrict the application to group II comprising Claims 24-39 and 46-61, drawn to a consulting system method for artificial agents, classified in class 705, subclass 37.

In addition, we respectfully submit new claims covering non-obvious extensions of the above-mentioned claims that are well supported by the detailed description of the preferred and alternate embodiments, and are also drawn to a consulting system method for artificial agents.

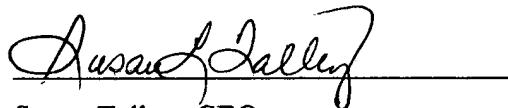
Additional Claim Listing

67. The system of claim 46, wherein a curriculum vitae is associated with each artificial agent.
68. The system of claim 48, wherein the predictability value changes in view of real time market data.
69. The system of claim 48, wherein the predictability value is based on mutual-information-based reconstruction of a multivariate landscape.
70. The system of claim 69, wherein a price series of a financial instrument is used to generate the multivariate landscape.
71. The system of claim 46, wherein each artificial agent is self monitoring.
72. The system of claim 46, wherein the artificial agents monitor their expected future performance using a predictability value.
73. The system of claim 46, wherein each agent retires itself when its predictability falls below a predetermined threshold.
74. The system of claim 73, wherein retired agents are replaced by new agents from an agent factory.
75. The system of claim 46, wherein each artificial agent is pre-trained with a predetermined decision making strategy.
76. The system of claim 46, wherein at least one of the agents has a strategy that is designed by the user.

The request to restrict the claims to a single classification is believed to have been fulfilled by this Response. All pending claims within group II comprising claims 24-39, 46-61 and 67-76 are believed to be allowable, and a prompt Notice of Allowance would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

August 23, 2006



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